

Montreal, June 3rd, 2008

Dear IEEE Women in Engineering (IEEE WIE)

It is our pleasure to share with you the successful results of the IEEE-WIE (Montréal Section) event held the past 23rd of May at the École Polytechnique de Montréal.

WIE-Montreal invited three professional women engineers representing the industry and the academy for a panel discussion named "*The Role of Women Engineers in Technological and Scientific Advancements*". The panellists were:

- Professor Olga Ormandjieva -Computer Science & Software Engineering, Concordia University.
- Dr. Marie-Josée Potvin – Ph.D. Engineer in Dynamics and Structures, Canadian Space Agency (CSA).
- Ph.D. Candidate Maud El Hachem, Electrical and Computer Engineering, École Polytechnique de Montréal.

The discussion panel focused the attention on the opinion of the panellists and the attendees, regarding the position of women in the academy and in the industry. The panellists shared with the audience their personal and professional challenges, as well as their own approach in solving many obstacles and difficulties that women may encounter as they work their way through a successful engineering career.

We were very pleased to receive the attendance of more than 50 participants, including the participation of IEEE-Montreal section chair, Dr. Anader Benyamin, the IEEE-Eastern Canada chair, Dr. Amir Aghdam, IEEE-Montreal section secretary, Dr. Laurent Lamarre and IEEE-Broadcast Technology chapter chair, Dr. Manijeh Khataie. The moderator of the event was Ph.D. Candidate, Mr. Nazih Khaddaj Mallat, Vice-chair of IEEE-Montreal section and Montreal WIE VP Communications.

Among our guests, we had male and female students from Concordia University, École Polytechnique, ETS (École de Technologie Supérieure), INRS (Institut national de la recherche scientifique), McGill University and a few participants from Ontario universities.

After more than 2 hours conference panel discussions, we offered recognition gifts to our panelists and a light buffet was served to all of our guests.

We would like to thank you for your financial support and continuous encouragement, which were very important elements for the newly re-organized WIE- Montreal group that led us to prepare such a rewarding event. We certainly hope to continue counting on your support and contributions towards our mission and objectives for IEEE-WIE in preparing future activities.

Thank you once again and best regards,

The IEEE-Women in Engineering Montreal Team